

Members

Sen. Connie Lawson  
Chairperson  
Sen. Rose Ann Antich-Carr  
Rep. William Crawford  
Rep. Mary Kay Budak  
Ellen Clippinger  
Cheryl Selig  
Sven Schumacher  
Kimberly Armstrong  
Judy Nivens  
Sharon Pierce  
Reverend C.L. Day  
Carol Johnson  
Nathan Samuel  
Natalie Wolf



## BOARD FOR THE COORDINATION OF CHILD CARE REGULATION

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Authority: IC 12-17.2-3.1

### MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

Meeting Date: September 23, 2004  
Meeting Time: 10:30 A.M.  
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington  
St., Room 404  
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana  
Meeting Number: 2

**Members Present:** Sen. Connie Lawson; Chairperson; Sen. Rose Ann Antich-Carr; Rep. William Crawford; Rep. Mary Kay Budak; Ellen Clippinger; Cheryl Selig; Sven Schumacher; Kimberly Armstrong; Judy Nivens; Sharon Pierce; Reverend C.L. Day; Carol Johnson; Nathan Samuel; Natalie Wolf.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Senator Lawson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.**

#### Proposed Home Child Care Rules

Michelle Rhoades, Elkhart County Day Care Association, presented information (Exhibit A) concerning: (1) the frustration of licensed providers with the lack of communication between the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) and licensed

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.ai.org/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

providers; (2) the FSSA Carefinder website; and (3) new child care home regulations.

In response to questions from Board members, Ms. Rhoades discussed possible solutions for problems concerning: (1) the provider "sight and sound" supervision requirement, and (2) rule violations and complaint postings against a provider listed on the Carefinder website.

Kathryn Azhar, Infant Day Care, Inc., voiced her concerns about the relevance and effectiveness of the new home child care rules. She specifically discussed the need for the following requirements: (1) sign-in sheets, (2) monthly fire drills, (3) menu posting on the wall, (4) the 1:4 child to caregiver ratio, and (4) the mounting of fire extinguishers.

Tom Rayl, Representative for Indiana Child Care Centers, testified that child care centers have declined due to competition from less regulated entities. He urged the Board and FSSA to make the best interest of the child be the guiding light when investigating complaints, creating laws and promulgating rules in the area of child care.

Ann Stefaniak, Kids Kove Day Care, St. Joseph County, voiced her concerns about: (1) the Carefinder website, (2) illuminated exit signs in her home, and (3) the enforcement of rules not yet promulgated. She discussed and distributed to the Board information (Exhibit B) concerning her last inspection by FSSA personnel.

Annette Biesecker, FSSA, presented information concerning the need for sight and sound supervision and examples of substantiated neglect in child care homes in Indiana (Exhibit C). She stated that FSSA is in the process of carving out exceptions to the "sight and sound" continuous supervision provision in their child care rules to allow for the following situations: personal hygiene, emergencies, ordinary daily chores, and provider's children to go about their daily routine without causing rule violations such as remaining asleep after 5:00 a.m.

There was Board discussion concerning: (1) notice given for new rules, (2) due process for providers who have complaints filed against them, (3) accreditation for child care providers, and (4) rule enforcement prior to promulgation.

Mark Snyder, Class I and Class II child care provider, Warsaw, Indiana, discussed the following issues: (1) improvement needed with the FSSA orientation class for providers, and (2) the adversarial relationship between FSSA and child care providers and the need to become allies.

Debbie Grace, Class II child care provider, Evansville, Indiana, testified that the infant/toddler child to caregiver ratio requirements are almost impossible to achieve. She stated that FSSA agents are not properly trained to advise providers on the rules and how to abide by them.

Regina Bearyman, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Robin Rich, Gary, IN, Dawn Corvin, Bristol, Indiana, Penny Johnson, South Bend, Indiana, Ann Morris, and Monica Boyer presented questions to FSSA personnel (Lanier Degrella, Annette Biesecker and Stephen DeMougin) present at the meeting. In response to the questions presented, FSSA personnel discussed the following issues: (1) sight and sound continuous supervision, (2) due process for providers who are accused of violating FSSA rules, (3) annual CPR training, (4) inspection checklist, (5) the child development associates degree requirement for providers, (6) the child care development voucher fund program, and (7) child care provider parental rights.

### Preschool Foundations

Jayma Ferguson, Indiana Dept. of Education (IDOE), presented information concerning Foundations for Young Children to the Indiana Academic Standards (Foundations)(Exhibits D and E). She discussed the development of the Foundations, which outline specific skills and concepts and give examples of instructional strategies to support teachers, parents and caregivers as they develop appropriate experiences for young children. The Foundations address the following content areas: English/language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, physical education, health, and the arts. Ms. Ferguson discussed the domains outlined in the Foundations which include: social/emotional, cognitive, physical development, self-help, communications and literacy. She advised the Board of the collaboration between the Bureau of Child Development and IDOE in sponsoring a statewide train-the-trainer professional development around the Foundations, early childhood assessments and social/emotional development.

Senator Lawson announced that at the next Board meeting the following items will be addressed: (1) Report from the Commission on Abused and Neglected Children, (2) Report on CCDF Quality Activities, (3) Report from FSSA concerning IRS information on Registered Ministries, and (4) SB 178.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.